

Now

How

A National Park In Kentucky

K14
CLASS R917.6992 B65

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mammoth cave national park
association

LOUISVILLE
FREE PUBLIC
LIBRARY

A NATIONAL PARK
IN KENTUCKY

1915
M35
3111111111111111
3111111111111111
3111111111111111
3111111111111111

F
457
.Ma
M35
1927

This booklet presents the status of the movement to make the Mammoth Cave area a National Park. It provides facts, thoughts and figures for those interested in the project, and who are lending their efforts to help this great constructive vision become a reality. The material submitted is not copyrighted. It may be used as a basis for written articles, editorials and speeches in an endeavor to tell the people of Kentucky's golden opportunity.

The Editor.

20 D-27 P

A NATIONAL PARK IN KENTUCKY



KENTUCKY stands on the threshold of a new era of progress. The crossing of that threshold depends upon the answer of its citizens to the call upon their pride in Kentucky and their good business judgment.

The opportunity has come in the making of Mammoth Cave area a National Park, to be perpetually maintained and developed by the United States Government.

For more than a century Mammoth Cave and the adjoining regions, with all their subterranean wonders and surface scenic beauties, have been owned by private interests. This despite the fact that the whole civilized world has been interested in the amazing natural architecture and beauties found there. Until now the cave and its environs have been completely neglected as a state asset. In recent years, our citizens have come to an appreciation of the great good for Kentucky that can be brought out of the area.

The United States Government has definitely placed its stamp of endorsement upon the movement, and through official action has admitted the Mammoth Cave area as worthy of classification with Yellowstone, Yosemite, Rocky Mountain, Sequoia, Grand Canyon and other marvels of our lands. The

approval of an act of Congress May 25, 1926, authorized the acceptance of the Mammoth Cave area by the National Government.

It is specified these lands must be donated to the United States. This done, the administration, protection, improvement and development of the region as a National Park shall go forward under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.

HISTORY OF MOVEMENT

The National Park Area

Mammoth Cave has been before the people of Kentucky, and of the world, in fact, since the early part of the nineteenth century. Remarkable formations, comprising enormous underground chambers and strange beauties peculiar to nature's moods below the surface of the earth, have made it a world curiosity. Scientists, students, artists from every corner of the globe have visited it, and there is no child who can read but knows something of its amazing characteristics.

The original cavern system, known as "Mammoth Cave," is but a small portion of the charming and interesting area to be included in the proposed National Park. There are at least 25 other cave systems, as well as tracts of virgin timber, green vales and hills, unique land formations, strange surface indications of the caves below, and a substantial portion of Green River, one of the most beautiful streams in the world.

Many years have passed since the first proposal that the Mammoth Cave area be made a National Park. During the intervening period sentiment has been growing steadily, reaching into every corner of

the state. It is generally admitted that such a great attraction as a National Park within the borders of Kentucky, drawing, as it will, an immense throng of tourist from every section of our land, will be of value immeasurable to Kentucky. Good roads throughout the state will be one of the direct returns, for the tourists will make funds available for such a purpose.

Director Mather's Recommendation

Public spirited citizens of the state actively forwarding the idea succeeded in interesting officials at Washington, with the result that Stephen T. Mather, Director of National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, investigated. His favorable comment and recommendation were contained in his annual report issued October 14, 1920, and included the following:

"Nature's most magnificent, and certainly the largest, limestone cavern, with approximately 40 miles of wonderfully formed underground passages and chambers, it is not only known to every school child in the land but is already the mecca of travelers the world over. The land itself covering the cave and contiguous areas contains thousands of acres of the splendid virgin growth of the deciduous forest growth of the East. Its location at the head of navigation of the Green River contributes another particularly fascinating detail to the richness of that region. Its accessibility, not only to our large centers of population but through ease of approach by motor, rail and boat, would insure it a popularity in the East that is so common to the major parks of the West.

That part of the United States lying east of the Mississippi River contains only one national park, LaFayette National Park, in Maine, which, by the way, is constituted solely of lands contributed by public-spirited citizens. More national parks are needed in the East, and the inclusion of the Mammoth Cave region would add one of the most remarkable of 'distinguished examples of typical forms of world architecture,' to the proud national-park family. More than that, by virtue of its favorable location, it would at once perform its important function as a breathing spot available to every man, woman and child of our large industrial centers at a minimum expenditure of money.

"The property is in private hands, administered under the terms of a famous will which directs that upon the death of the last-named heir under the will the property is to be sold at public auction. The famous Mammoth Cave may go into speculative private hands and be forever lost for development as a national park for the benefit of the people of the country. It ought to become the Nation's property."

Dr. Hubert Work, Secretary of the Interior, in an official statement on the subject declared that the "Mammoth Cave is one of the most widely known natural features of America," and that "unquestionably the Mammoth Cave is worthy of national park status."

Such favorable attitude from those high in affairs in Washington served to encourage those in Kentucky. They realized that a National Park so close to the most thickly populated regions would

be a great boon to the American people. The Mammoth Cave National Park Association was formed by citizens from all portions of the state, who rallied to the cause, recognizing the tourist value of National Parks as demonstrated by other localities where such recreational centers have been created.

*Mammoth Cave National Park Association's
Appeal to Washington*

The association turned toward Washington as the next step. In 1925 an appeal was sent to Dr. Work. In it was stated:

"The Mammoth Cave proper is too well known and has been too often described for us to add anything to that which has already been said. Colossal Cavern which was discovered about thirty years ago and explored is briefly described in the same reference works. Within the past ten years, Great Onyx Cave has been opened to the public and it is one of the most beautiful caves in all the world. Mammoth Cave, Salts Cave, Proctor Cave, Long Avenue Cave, Great Crystal Cave, Cave of the Hundred Domes, Diamond Cave, Mammoth Onyx Cave, Dorsey Cave and Dixon Cave are among the caves which have been opened to the public for many years. It has been said there is no part of the world unexplored, but here is a great underground region much of which has never been explored by any man.

"If this property is sold under the above mentioned provision of the will, which it will be in the near future, and it passes into private hands, it will be lost to the people as a national park. The value of the property will increase very rapidly

when it falls into the hands of private parties who will properly advertise it and place on the grounds the necessary and needed improvements. In addition, new discoveries in the Cave region occur almost every year. The recent discovery of an underground river large enough to carry boats in the Great Onyx Cave, and the discovery of the great waterfall in Great Crystal Cave, add materially to the value of the caves within the entire territory. This is the opportune time to acquire the property. Ten years hence the cost will be many times what it would be now.

"We desire to call attention to the important fact that it is located near the center of population. Its scenic qualities are unexcelled. Its fields, forests, springs, rivers and broad spaces make an ideal place for a national play-ground. The wonders found in the caves are such as will attract hundreds of thousands, and many of those who come will find the location so pleasant they will remain for days and weeks for recreational purposes. The wonders are underground and beauty is on the surface. The climate is such as to make the area a pleasant place at all times of the year."

National Park Commission Favors Project

The interest of Congress was aroused and that body enacted a measure under which there was appointed a commission to study the matter. By this time the people of Virginia and North Carolina and Tennessee had awakened to the value of having national parks as part of their state attractions. They too had approached Congress, Virginia asking that the Blue Ridge Mountains, bordering Shenandoah

Valley, be made into Shenandoah National Park, and Tennessee and North Carolina requesting that similar action be taken on behalf of the Great Smoky Mountains. The commission, known as the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, went into the trio of projects thoroughly, and recommended favorably all three. Members of the Commission were:

Honorable H. W. Temple, Member of the House of Representatives, U. S., from Pennsylvania.

Major W. A. Welch, Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Palisades Interstate Park of New York and New Jersey.

Mr. Harlan P. Kelsey, former President of the Appalachian Mountains Club of Boston.

Mr. William C. Gregg, a prime mover of the National Arts Club, of New York.

Colonel Glenn S. Smith, acting Chief Topographic Engineer of the Geological Survey, representative of the Interior Department of the Commission.

Their report concerning the Mammoth Cave area stated:

"Your commission has made a careful examination of the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky and believes sufficient reasons exist to warrant its acceptance as a National Park.

"Mammoth Cave is the best known and probably the largest of a remarkable group of limestone caverns, twenty or more of which have been opened up and explored to a greater or less extent. There is good evidence that many more caverns yet to be discovered exist in this immediate ter-

ritory, and it seems likely that most, if not all, of this entire group of caverns eventually will be found to be connected by passageways forming a great underground labyrinth of remarkable geological and recreational interest perhaps unparalleled elsewhere. Another geological feature of much interest is found in the thousands of curious sink holes of varying sizes through which much of the drainage is carried to underground streams, there being few surface brooks or creeks.

"The Mammoth Cave area is situated in one of the most rugged portions of the great Mississippi Valley and contains areas of apparently original forests which, though comparatively small in extent, are of prime value from a ecological and scientific standpoint and should be preserved for all time in its virgin state for study and enjoyment. Much of the proposed area is now clothed in forest through which flows the beautiful and navigable Green River and its branch the Nolin River.

"All this offers exceptional opportunity for developing a great National recreational park of outstanding service in the very heart of our Nation's densest population and at a time when the need is increasingly urgent and most inadequately provided for."

Kentucky's Representative Speaks

Congressman Maurice H. Thatcher, ardent in his support of the movement, as so many loyal Kentuckians have become, battling for the cause which means so much to his state, spoke on the matter before

the House of Representatives April 19, 1926. The following excerpts from his speech taken from the Congressional Record were preceded by reference to the other proposed National Parks in the East:

"I earnestly favor all of these projects. All are eminently eligible for national parkhood. The time is ripe for their consummation. Because of the greater masses of our population to be served east of the Mississippi, there is the greater need for national parks in this great section of our country than in the West. In the case of the Mammoth Cave National Park, however, the fact that the cave region is accessible by motor, rail and river every day of the year, and is already 'sold' to the world at large because known throughout the civilized earth as one of the 'seven wonders of the world,' will cause it to be, in our deliberate judgment, the most frequented and the most popular of all our national parks.

"This whole region is honeycombed with marvelous caves and their ramifications, and in the aggregate they undoubtedly constitute the most wonderful system of caves in the world. At present the various caves are under diverse ownership and management. Should the Mammoth Cave National Park be created, all of these cave units would come under a single management—that of the Federal Government—and the limited accommodations now provided for tourists and visitors would be replaced by adequate and pleasing hotels and camps of the character now provided in the national parks of the West.

"The stupendous caverns and underground passages making up the Mammoth Cave system

constitute such a striking example of world architecture as to form, of themselves alone, a feature worthy of national park recognition.

"Let us take advantage of the opportunity offered, and unite in this great movement, and write a new and splendid chapter in our national park history. By doing so we shall earn not only the approval of the present generation, but, as well, the approval of the generations to come through all the future."

The Incomparable Cave Region of Kentucky

Speaking again before Congress May 14, 1926, in behalf of the Mammoth Cave National Park, then before the House for consideration, Mr. Thatcher, among other things, said:

"The great national parks of the Rocky Mountain and Western regions, and those in Alaska and Hawaii are very wonderful. They contain a marvelous variety of mountain, valley, canyon and forest scenery. Each, in a particular way, stands first in its class among the world's scenic wonders. In this connection, I will say that this marvelous underground world in Kentucky is, in every way, as wonderful and awe-inspiring, as unique and distinctive, as is the Yellowstone region, the Yosemite region, the region of the Grand Canyon, or any other area within our entire national park system. In fact, the one thing needful to complete the infinite variety of our national parks is the inclusion of a great system of caves and caverns, such as is to be found in the incomparable Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky.

"The great bulk of our American population is to be found east of the Mississippi, the great preponderance of our Federal taxes is paid by those living east of the Mississippi River, but to the greater number of these the national parks of the country are, for all practical purposes, altogether inaccessible. The need for great recreational grounds between the Mississippi and the Atlantic seaboard is manifest and paramount. If national parks in the West are worth while, they will certainly prove to be worth while in the East."

Congress Sanctions Acceptance

These efforts convinced Congress it was a matter worthy of the approval and support of our Government. Success to this phase of the project came on the last named date, with the adoption of the following Congressional act; of which Mr. Thatcher was the author:

"An Act To Provide for the establishment of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky and for other purposes.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That when title to lands within the area hereinafter referred to shall have been vested in the United States in fee simple, there shall be, and there is hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, the tract of land in the Mammoth Cave region of the State of Kentucky, being approximately seventy thousand six hundred and eighteen acres, recommended as

a National Park by the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission to the Secretary of the Interior, in its report of April 8, 1926, and made under authority of the Act of February 21, 1925; which area, or any part or parts thereof as may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions hereof, shall be known as the Mammoth Cave National Park: Provided, That the United States shall not purchase by appropriation of public moneys any land within the aforesaid area, but such lands shall be secured by the United States only by public or private donation.

“Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized in his discretion, to accept, as hereinafter provided, on behalf of the United States, title to the lands referred to in the previous section hereof, and to be purchased with the funds which may be subscribed by or through the Mammoth Cave National Park Association of Kentucky, and with other contributions for the purchase of lands in the Mammoth Cave National Park area; Provided, That any of said lands may be donated directly to the United States and conveyed to it, cost free, by fee simple title, in cases where such donations may be made without the necessity of purchase.

“Sec. 3. The administration, protection and development of the aforesaid park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916, entitled ‘An Act to Establish a National Park Service and For Other Purposes,’ as amended: Pro-

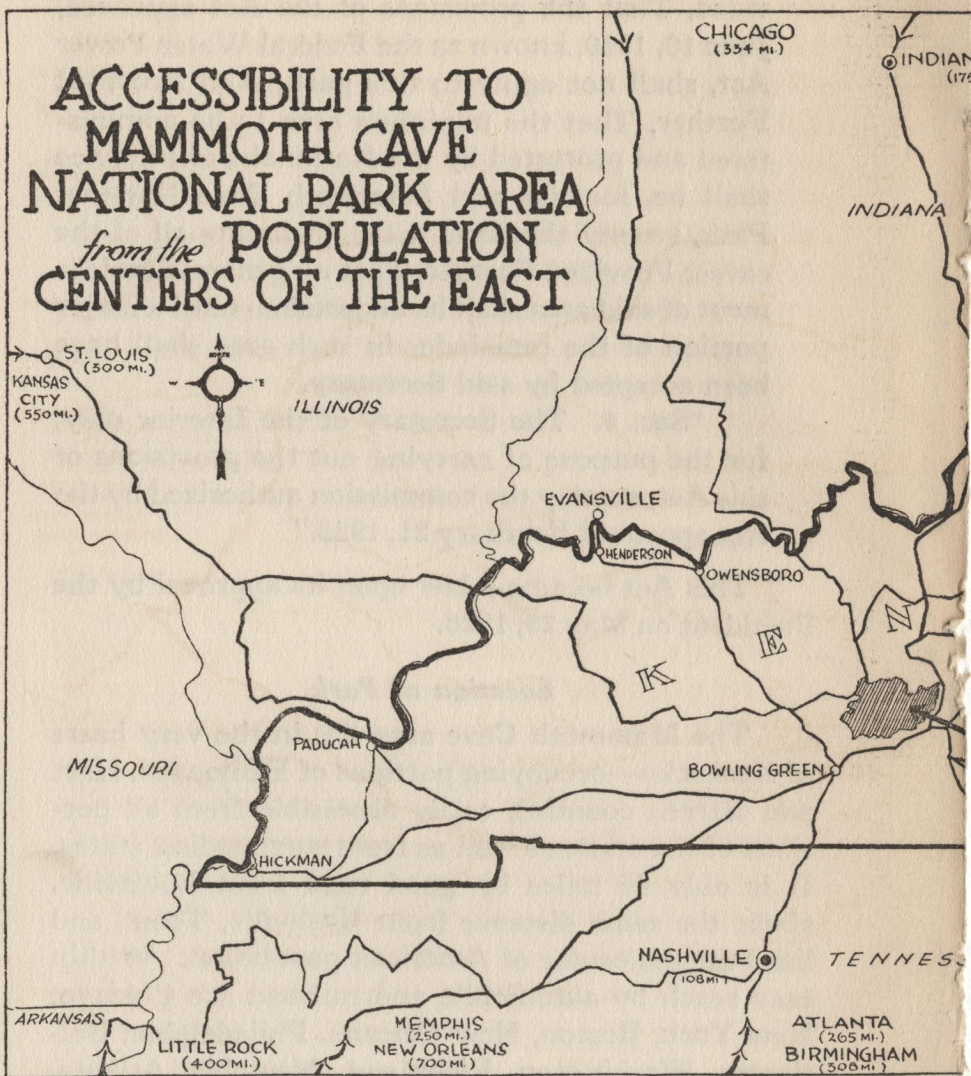
vided, That the provisions of the Act approved, June 10, 1920, known as the Federal Water Power Act, shall not apply to this park; And Provided Further, That the minimum area to be administered and protected by the National Park Service shall be, for the said Mammoth Cave National Park, twenty thousand acres, including all of the caves: Provided Further, That no general development of said area shall be undertaken until a major portion of the remainder in such area shall have been accepted by said Secretary.

"Sec. 4. The Secretary of the Interior may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, employ the commission authorized by the Act approved February 21, 1925."

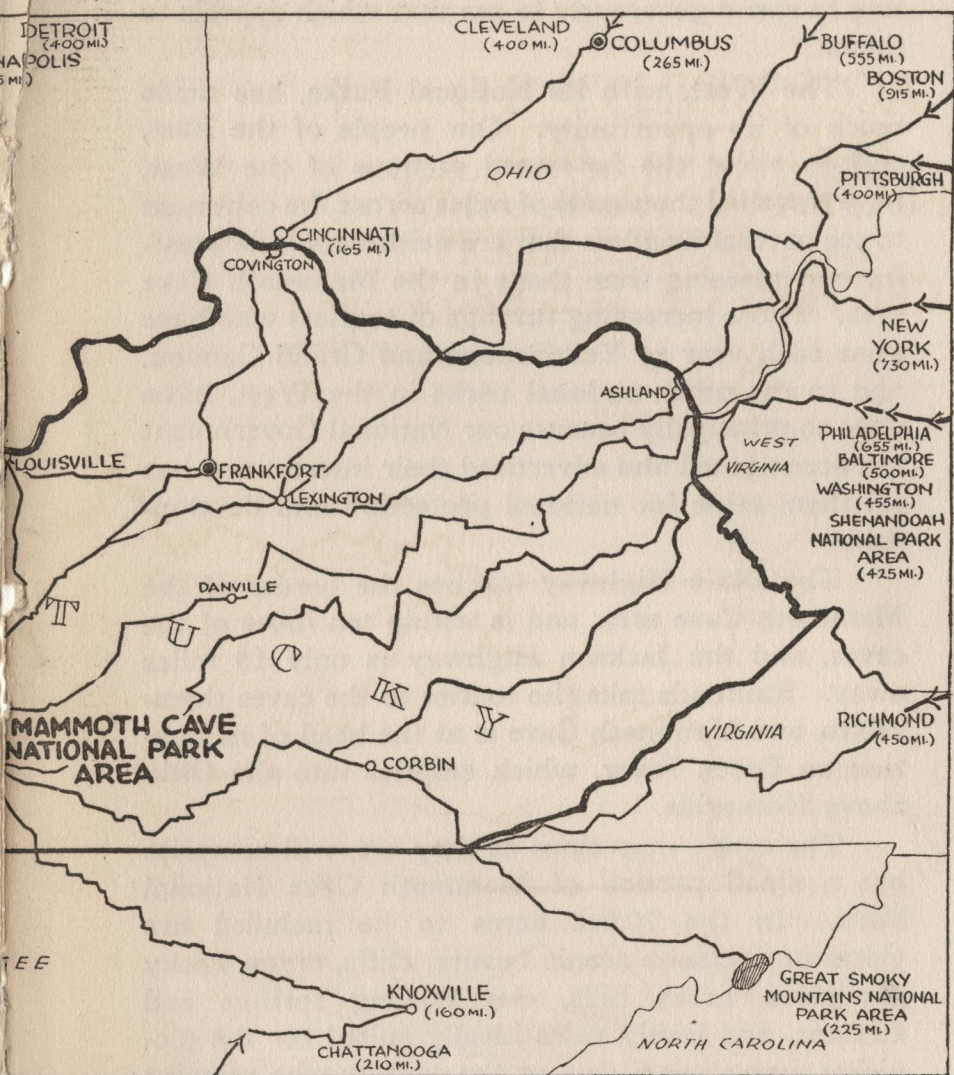
This Act became a law upon its approval by the President on May 25, 1926.

Location of Park

The Mammoth Cave area lies in the very heart of Kentucky—occupying portions of Edmonson, Hart and Barren counties, easily accessible from all portions of the state, as well as from surrounding states. It is only 96 miles by good road from Louisville, about the same distance from Nashville, Tenn., and lies near the center of American population. Within easy reach by automobile and railroad are Chicago, New York, Boston, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Richmond, Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and the other great population centers of the East. It is in the very midst of prosperous and thickly populated states, the residents of which have learned to love travel, and who are wil-



THE MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK AREA IS IN THE EAST AND MIDDLE WEST. IN FACT THE LARGEST CITY WITHIN A DAY'S RIDE. ACCESS TO THIS GOVERNMENT PARK IN THE VERY HEART OF KENTUCKY WILL BE EASY. MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK WILL REACH THE POPULARITY, OF ALL OF UNCLE SAM'S NATIONAL PARKS, BECAUSE IT IS SITUATED IN ALL DIRECTIONS BY POPULOUS COMMUNITIES IN KENTUCKY WHEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSUMES SUCH RESPONSIBILITY.



CLOSE TO THE GREAT POPULATION CENTERS OF THE
 TIES OF THIS THICKLY SETTLED REGION ARE ALL
 FULLY MAINTAINED AND DEVELOPED PLAYGROUND
 FOR MILLIONS OF PERSONS. WITHIN A BRIEF TIME
 PEAK OF IMPORTANCE, BOTH IN INTEREST AND POPU-
 THE ABOVE MAP SHOWS HOW THE AREA IS SUR-
 VIES. THEIR ATTENTION WILL BE DRAWN TO KEN-
 SUPERVISION OF MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK.

ling to spend generously to see that which appeals to them.

The West, with its National Parks, has made much of its opportunity. Our people of the East, curious about the far-famed sections of the West, have travelled thousands of miles across the continent to see natural wonders that are neither more interesting nor pleasing than those in the Mammoth Cave area. Those increasing throngs of tourists who have gone each year to Yellowstone and Grand Canyon, and to the other national parks in the West, have done so principally because our National Government has accentuated and advertised their interest and has set them aside for national protection and development.

The Dixie Highway touches the border of the Mammoth Cave area, and is within ten miles of the caves, and the Jackson Highway is only 15 miles away. Railroads take the tourist to the caves themselves, and Mammoth Cave is at the head of navigation on Green River, which empties into the Ohio above Evansville.

The caves, marvelous as they are, will comprise but a small portion of Mammoth Cave National Park. In the 70,618 acres to be included are vistas of exquisite scenic beauty, cliffs, crags, rocky precipices, green hills, clear-flowing springs and streams, and lovely vales ideally suited for the picnicker who stays a day, or the camper who remains a month. There are curious land formations, intriguing to the student of geology or delighting the eye of the artist. Of paramount interest are virgin forests. Flowing through the proposed park area in graceful curvings is Green River, in places nearly 100 feet in

depth, said to be the deepest stream for its size in the world; also, lovely Nolin River, a tributary of Green River. Into Green River there empty the numerous underground streams that flow through the caves. During the ages Green River has cut imposing gorges through the great hills, rivalling in impressive grandeur anything of the type in this part of the world.

Government Maintenance and Development

The government looks after the protection and improvement of all of its National Parks. The Federal Government has never purchased lands for National Park purposes. The National Parks west of the Mississippi have been carved out of the natural domain. Regarding the Mammoth Cave, Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Park projects, Congress indicated its willingness to appropriate the needed funds for the development, improvement, maintenance and operation of these park areas when they are donated to the United States Government. Once the Mammoth Cave area has been taken over by the government, it also will receive the benefit of this supervision and development. The wonderful scenery will be preserved for posterity. Trails for the trampers, bridle paths for the horsemen, excellent roads for the motorists will be built, penetrating to the utmost limits of the rugged wilderness. Outdoor sports such as golf, tennis and baseball can be had almost all the year around. Water sports, swimming, canoeing, boating and fishing will be provided in beautiful Green and Nolin rivers. A portion of the park will be maintained as an animal preserve, and the streams will be kept stocked with fish. There is an abundance of at-

tractive space for camping grounds; commodious hotels will be built and maintained, sanitary arrangements installed, many conveniences provided, and facilities placed there to make the visitor comfortable and welcome—all at Federal expense. These things will be done in such manner as no individual would attempt, and as only our National Government could do them.

The Tourist—An Asset

Every type of business in Kentucky, every individual, every industry will be directly and profitably affected by the great influx. Every visitor must spend as he goes. The permanent resident, there to serve him in a business way, derives the benefit of the tourist's need.

The states of the West have realized this and admit their great prosperity and growth are largely due to the tourist. Many of these casual visitors, drawn by such a place as the Mammoth Cave National Park will represent, are attracted by the advantages of the region and will remain as permanent residents, investing their savings in homes and businesses and contributing their labors to community growth. Thus will Kentucky's population be increased and her wealth augmented.

Here are some definite figures, compiled by the Department of the Interior of our National Government, concerning this very phase and showing the influence National Parks have upon tourist travel.

Rocky Mountain National Park became a National Park in 1915. During the year 1915 it was visited by 31,000 tourists. In 1926, eleven years after it was made a National Park, 225,027 tourists visited it, an increase of nearly 200,000.

The Grand Canyon became a National Park in 1919, during which year 37,745 visitors were in the park. But in 1926, seven years later, the tourist visitors numbered 140,252, an increase of more than 100,000.

Lafayette National Park entered upon its classification under government auspices in 1919. Until that time few people, the country at large, had ever heard of the place. Sixty-four thousand people visited it the first year, and in 1926 it was visited by 101,256. This is true despite the fact that Lafayette Park is only eight square miles in area and is located on Mount Desert Island, far up along the coast of Maine. In accessibility it in no way compares with the Mammoth Cave National Park area.

Yellowstone in 1908 was visited by 19,542. In 1921 the number had grown to 81,651, and in 1926 there were 187,807 visitors.

Yosemite had 8,850 visitors in 1908, and 91,513 in 1921. However, the number in 1926 had grown to 274,209.

Crater Lake's visitors increased from 5,275 in 1908 to 86,019 in 1926. Mount Ranier had 2,826 visitors in 1908. In 1921 the number had grown to 55,771, and in 1926, five years later, the number was 161,796.

In Yosemite approximately \$24,479,600 was spent by visitors during 1926. This does not take into consideration the money spent in other parts of the state. On a similar estimate, \$14,025,200 was spent at the Grand Canyon in 1926, and \$18,780,700 at Yellowstone. Surrounding districts reaped a proportionate harvest from the tourists as they came and went, and of course many of the visitors decided to settle in the regions permanently.

New Citizenship for Kentucky

The Washington State Chamber of Commerce reports that the direct result of Mt. Ranier National Park to the state in tourists' spendings, great as it is, is vastly exceeded by that from permanent residents and permanent investments, induced by the park as a central attraction. The National Parks of the West in 1926 had 2,287,828 visitors. The government estimates that these tourists spent \$915,131,200 during their stay in the West in 1926. Thus we arrive at a basis for judging the number of visitors and the financial return Kentucky will have, with its immeasurable advantages over the distant attractions of the West.

Those parks are all in the far West except Lafayette, and they are far removed from the populous regions of our country. None of them can compare in any way with the Mammoth Cave National Park area for accessibility from the great population masses of America. Kentucky's National Park district is in the very center of the most thickly settled portion of our nation, and will have a tremendous advantage over every other National Park. It is within easy traveling distance of the homes of the entire East. To become the most important of all National Parks, it needs only the impetus of the advertising and development our National Government will give.

Thousands of tourists who now go to the West will stay in the East, and will come to Kentucky. Their visits will not be limited merely to the summer period, for Mammoth Cave is in a region with climate so moderate it can be reached and enjoyed in comfort the year around, while the great caverns themselves have a temperature of about 58 degrees and will

attract visitors every day of the year, an advantage possessed by no other National Park. Approximately 60,000 visitors have been in the cave area this year. This modest number will be vastly increased once the National Park status is attained. A brief period should multiply this number by at least ten, thus bringing more than a half million into the area each year, a very large proportion of whom will come from other states and countries. Growth should be continual, as the attractiveness and accessibility of the region becomes known. It is predicted by students of the subject, that with the establishment and improvement of the Mammoth Cave National Park, there will be ultimately attracted to the State an annual tourist traffic of a hundred million dollars and that in time this great sum will be exceeded.

Vast Sums for Scenery

By permission of the Saturday Evening Post, the following paragraphs are quoted from an article in the July 12th, 1925, edition of the magazine under the title of "Scenery a Cash Crop," and written by Mr. Forrest Crissey.

"Those who are inclined to regard this new crop as something vague, intangible, aesthetic and a bit foolish, need to revise their commercial arithmetic and wrestle with the statement that the people of America spend more for beauty than for bread; more to satisfy the hunger of the eye than for the stark necessities of life. Subtract from the total of our commerce everything above these sheer necessities and the remainder is the amount paid for appearance, attractiveness, beauty.

"Beauty is the biggest commercial commodity known to modern trade and outranks all others in money volume.

"Our National Parks are the great magnets of American tourist travel, the major destination points for those millions of automobilists to whom the motor car has made private transportation in family parties a financial possibility. The circus press agent would say, 'The National Parks are the grandest aggregations of scenic magnificence of the Western World.' They have been made the nation's playgrounds because of this fact. Perhaps no public policy of the National Government has had a more complete justification than the preservation of these immense scenic areas for the free use of the people of generations of Americans yet unborn."

This is but a suggestion of the share Kentucky will have in the Nation's tourist travel once Mammoth Cave has been listed among the governmentally supervised National Parks.

Financial Returns

As an investment how does this look? Let us cut the most conservative estimates to the bone and say that to begin with only 500,000 people a year will visit Kentucky because of its National Park.

If they average ten dollars each in fares on railroads they will add \$5,000,000 to Kentucky's annual income from that source.

If they average fifty gallons of gasoline each, at twenty cents a gallon, for private motors and public busses, they will add \$5,000,000 to the income from that source.

If they average three nights each in a hotel, at \$21.00 a week, they will add \$4,500,000 to the income from that source.

If they average 10 meals each at \$1.00 per meal they will add \$5,000,000 to the income from that source.

If they average three days each, inside Kentucky's borders, and spend \$3.50 per day in retail stores, they will add \$5,250,000 to the income from that source.

The government reports state that each visitor recorded spent several days in the National Parks, so the above estimate is a very conservative one.

Rocky Mountain National Park drew 225,027 visitors in 1926.

The Colorado State Chamber of Commerce at Denver informs us that these visitors spent \$49,000,-000 in that state during the year, despite its remoteness from the great population centers.

Benefit Every Community

The benefit to Kentucky will not be confined to any particular section of the state. Kentucky has another advantage which will make the values equitable. Practically every corner of the state has something of which it can be proud—some historical fact or some condition or project of interest to the outsider. Tourists, as they go to or from Mammoth Cave National Park, will visit the other points of general fame and interest in Kentucky. They will come from all directions. Good roads will be built to accommodate them, for the money these travelers bring into the state will pay for the work. And as

every corner of the Commonwealth becomes more accessible, so will that section grow and prosper.

How It Will Be Done

The entire state of Kentucky is being thoroughly organized. Approximately 8,000 volunteer workers, reaching every point throughout the entire state, will be active before the end of the year, asking every man and woman to contribute liberally. A general chairman will supervise complete activity. Under his guidance the state will be divided into ten regions, with a chairman in charge of each. In turn, the regional chairman will appoint a chairman for each county in his region. The counties will be divided into districts, representing cities and rural communities. Each district will have a chairman, and under his auspices will work the captains and their teams. Once this organization has been completed, solicitation on an intensive scale will get under way. It will culminate in a simultaneous state-wide drive during the latter part of the year.

The goal of the campaign is \$2,500,000. That sum is necessary for the purchase of the prescribed acreage, including all the cave units—about 70,000 acres, all told—to make a National Park of the Mammoth Cave area, managed, developed, maintained and advertised by the United States government. It will be a National Park within a day's ride of many millions of people.

A Vision Becomes a Reality

In the foregoing we have given a complete analysis of the project, and the benefits which will accrue to every individual within the state, and to the state

itself. We have outlined the plan of organization and procedure which will produce a National Park in Kentucky. We have given the facts.

We have the desire—a desire traditional in Kentucky's pride and ideals. This desire Congress recognized when it stated that the Mammoth Cave area would be acceptable as a National Park, and when it authorized the area's acceptance as a gift from the people of Kentucky.

We now come with an appeal to the citizenship of Kentucky. The responsibility lies entirely with the individual. The plan of organization shows how the work can be accomplished. Its achievement remains with the people of Kentucky.

Success, of course, will cost us time; it will cost us money; but time and money, as measured by the returns which will inevitably follow and as measured in terms of public welfare—will be the best investment we can ever hope to make. Let us gaze into the future and visualize it. Let us contemplate the splendid advantages which will accrue to Kentucky as a National Park state. Here, indeed, is opportunity of a character most golden. How greatly favored is our beloved Commonwealth above other states of the Union. Here is a real chance to help Kentucky. This is our responsibility! Shall we accept it? This is our obligation! Shall we discharge it? If we fail to accept our responsibility; if we fail to discharge our obligation, the world, with justice, will criticize, and posterity will condemn us; but if we fitly meet the solemn duties of this hour, the world will applaud, and posterity will rise up and call us blessed.

Let us do this thing for the good of Kentucky, for the good of the nation. Let us do it for the good

of ourselves, for the good of our children, and our childrens' children, even unto the remotest generation. Let us perform this great task of peace time in the same spirit in which Boone and Kenton, and George Rogers Clark, and their illustrious compatriots performed their far greater tasks when they wrested Kentucky from savagery and the wilderness and fashioned it into one of the great Commonwealths of the nation. If we fail in this effort, we will be unworthy of the heritage; but if we succeed, we will show ourselves worthy, and honor and glory will be ours forever.

What are we going to do with this great opportunity—with this project so vital to all Kentuckians? Shall we face it with determination, and conquer it as our tradition demands? By an enabling Act, Congress has done its part. Now we must do ours.

HON. MAURICE H. THATCHER, National Chairman
MR. TOM WALLACE, State Chairman
MR. HARRY G. SMITH, General Treasurer

—♦—
OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE MAMMOTH CAVE
NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION
—♦—

Mr. Max B. Nahm, President
Mr. J. Blakey Helm, Treasurer
Mr. George E. Zubrod, Secretary

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr. Theodore Ahrens
Mr. Robert J. Ball
Mr. Joseph Burge
Mr. S. D. Caldwell
Mr. Jay W. Harlan
Mr. J. L. Harman
Mr. Stacey Hill
Hon. Huston Quin
Mrs. B. M. Starks
Mr. Eugene Stuart
Hon. M. H. Thatcher
Mr. James C. Utterback

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hon. Huston Quin, Chairman
Mr. William Black
Mr. George H. Goodman
Mr. J. Blakey Helm
Mr. C. C. Hieatt
Mr. Bruce Hoblitzell
Mr. Otto Seelbach
Mr. Len Shouse
Mr. W. E. Smith
Mr. Tom Wallace

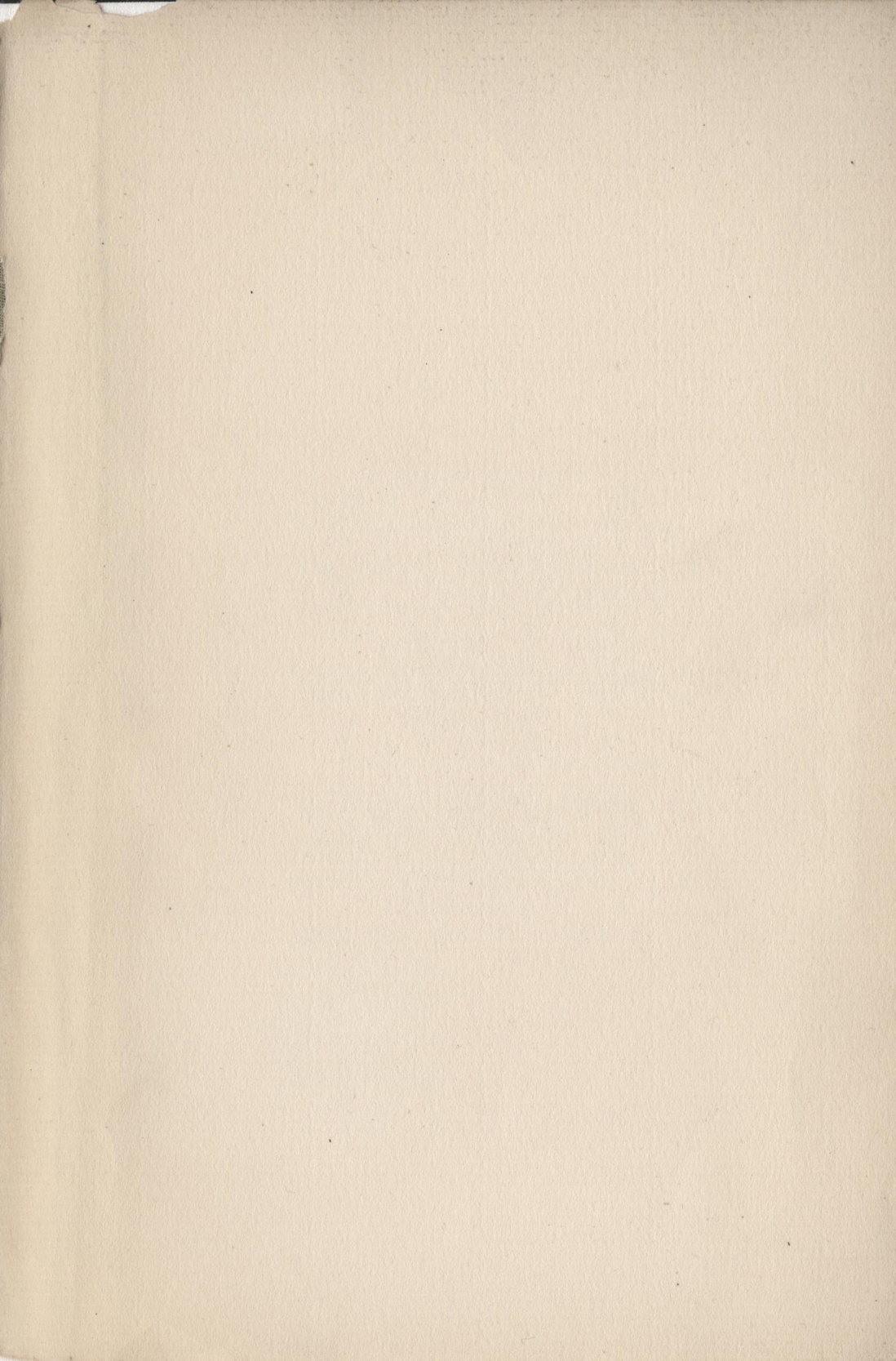
DIRECTORS

Mr. Theodore Ahrens, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. E. A. Jonas, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. Robert J. Ball, Louisville, Ky.	Hon. M. M. Logan, Bowling Green, Ky.
Mr. William Black, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. W. C. Montgomery, Elizabethtown, Ky.
Mr. Joseph Burge, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. Max B. Nahm, Bowling Green, Ky.
Mr. Rogers Caldwell, Nashville, Tenn.	Hon. Joseph T. O'Neal, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. S. D. Caldwell, Cave City, Ky.	Hon. Huston Quin, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. W. S. Carver, Horse Cave, Ky.	Mr. Frank D. Rash, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. J. Guthrie Coke, Auburn, Ky.	Mr. John B. Rodes, Bowling Green, Ky.
Mr. Charles Davis, Cape Cod, Mass.	Mr. Otto Seelbach, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. Fred Drexler, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. Len Shouse, Lexington, Ky.
Mr. George R. Ewald, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. Milton Smith, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.
Mr. C. Oscar Ewing, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. W. E. Smith, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. H. G. Garrett, Clay City, Ky.	Mrs. B. M. Starks, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. H. Giovannoli, Lexington, Ky.	Mr. Eugene Stuart, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. George H. Goodman, Paducah, Ky.	Mr. Coleman Taylor, Russellville, Ky.
Mr. Jay W. Harlan, Danville, Ky.	Hon. M. H. Thatcher, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. J. L. Harman, Bowling Green, Ky.	Mr. James C. Utterback, Paducah, Ky.
Mr. J. Blakey Helm, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. Henry Vogt, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. C. C. Hieatt, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. Tom Wallace, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. Stacey Hill, Cincinnati, Ohio	Mr. T. Bert Wilson, Louisville, Ky.
Mr. Bruce Hoblitzell, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. Urey Woodson, Owensboro, Ky.
Mr. P. W. Holman, Glasgow, Ky.	Mrs. Elsie Ahrens Zinsmeister, Louisville,
Mr. John E. Huhn, Louisville, Ky.	Ky.
Mr. Alex. E. Johnson, Louisville, Ky.	Mr. George E. Zubrod, Louisville, Ky.

GENERAL OFFICES
MARTIN BROWN BUILDING
LOUISVILLE, KY.

INDEX

	Page
Present Status of National Park Project.....	3
History of Movement	4
Director Mather's Recommendation	5
The Appeal to Washington By the Mammoth Cave National Park Association	7
Favorable Recommendation By the National Park Commission	8
Congressman M. H. Thatcher's Addresses Before Congress	10
Congressional Act Sanctioning Acceptance of Area As National Park	13
Location of Park	15
Map Showing Accessibility to Mammoth Cave National Park Area From the great Population Centers.....	16, 17
Government Maintenance and Development.....	19
The Tourist—An Asset	20
New Citizenship for Kentucky.....	22
"Vast Sums for Scenery".....	23
Financial Returns	24
Benefit Every Community	25
How It Will Be Done (Plan of Organization).....	26
A Vision Becomes A Reality	26
Campaign Leaders, Officers and Directors of Mammoth Cave National Park Association	29



ry

Photomount
Pamphlet
Binder
Gaylord Bros.
Makers
Syracuse, N. Y.
PAT. JAN 21, 1908

LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

REFERENCE COLLECTION

Not to be Taken from the Building

Ask at the desk for other material on the
subject for home reading

—
Assistant's pleased to help you

Form 149 10M 24F26 Franklin

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE LIBRARIES



U005 24641911 8

National park in Kentucky

F
457
.M2
M35
1927